

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00192 171021Z

13/61

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 IO-14 OMB-01 EUR-25 DRC-01 /149 W

----- 077474

R 141230Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 982

INFO AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

USINT ALGIERS

USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 0192

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y T E X T

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR TS

SUBJECT: FOOTNOTE TO QADHAFI'S FEB. 10 SPEECH

REF: TUNIS 0824; TRIPOLI 0171

1. THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS IN U.S. AND BRITISH PRESS THAT QADHAFI IN HIS FEB. 10 SPEECH OFFERED TO ARM AND TRAIN REVOLUTIONARIES TO OVERTHROW OTHER ARAB REGIMES. WE SUSPECT BBC WAS SOURCE OF ORIGINAL INACCURACY. BRITISH AMBASSADOR RECEIVED COMPLAINT FROM MFA UNDERSECRETARY ABOUT IT.

2. WHILE QADHAFI'S DEMOTIC STYLE OF DELIVERY MAKES SUCH REPORTS UNDERSTANDABLE, FACT IS HE DID NOT MAKE SUCH A SPECIFIC THREAT. QADHAFI SAID THAT HE HAD PROOF THAT MASSES IN MOROCCO, SUDAN, MAURITANIA, ALGERIA, EGYPT, TUNISIA, AND THE
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SUDAN "WERE WITH" THE LIBYAN PEOPLE IN THEIR

STRUGGLE FOR UNITY, BUT WENT ON TO ADD THAT
UNITY MUST COME FROM WITHIN. CONFUSION COULD
HAVE COME FROM JUXTAPOSITION OF THIS WITH
ANOTHER SECTION OF SPEECH WHERE QADHAFI SAID
LIBYA WAS EXAMPLE TO REST OF ARABS, AND
SUGGESTED THEY COME TO LIBYA TO QUOTE SEE HOW
THE PEOPLE COME FORWARD TO CARRY ARMS IN ORDER TO
DEFEND HONOR AND DIGNITY END QUOTE. HE ALSO
SUGGESTED THAT ANYONE WHO DOUBTED LIBYAN
ACHIEVEMENTS SHOULD COME TO SEE QUOTE THE
TRAINING FIELDS OF THE POPULAR RESISTANCE END
QUOTE, A REFERENCE TO LOCAL MILITIA WHOSE
ARMING WAS ONE RESULT OF THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION.
HIS REFERENCE TO LIBYA AS A SCHOOL FOR THE ARABS
WAS METAPHORICAL.

3. TUNISIAN EMBOFF HERE WAS PARTICULARLY UPSET
BY QADHAFI'S EXPLOITATION OF VISITING TUNISIAN
STUDENT DELEGATION WHICH HAD TO SIT ON ROSTRUM
AND LISTEN TO QADHAFI'S REFERENCE TO "ARAB WOMEN
PRESENTED TO TOURISTS", WHICH HE TOOK AS PARTI-
CULAR SLIGHT TO TUNISIA. ACTUALLY IT APPEARED TO
US TUNISIAN STUDENTS HAD CASE OF HERO WORSHIP
FROM PERSONALCONTACT WITH QADHAFI.
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